

APPL. NO. 10/038,521  
AMDT. DATED February 26, 2004  
REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION OF OCT. 2, 2004

ATTY DOCKET NO. 150.1023

### REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for his allowance of claims 64-69, 71, 77, 87, and 99, and for his indication that claims 48-57, 59, and 61-63 would be allowable if rewritten to incorporate the limitations of their base and any intervening claims.

In response to the Examiner's objection to claim 48, applicants have cancelled claim 48 and rewritten claim 48 in independent form by amending claim 46 to incorporate the limitations of claims 47 and 48, as requested by the Examiner. Claim 49 has been amended to depend from claim 46, rather than now cancelled claim 48.

In response to the Examiners objection to claim 51, applicants have incorporated the limitations of claim 46 into claim 51, as requested by the Examiner..

In response to the Examiners objection to claim 52, applicants have incorporated the limitations of claim 46 into claim 52, as requested by the Examiner.

In response to the Examiner's objection to claim 61, applicants have cancelled claim 61 and rewritten claim 61 in independent form by amending claim 60 to incorporate the limitations of claims 61, as requested by the Examiner.

As there were two claims numbered "52", applicants have amended the second occurrence of claim 52 as claim 104.

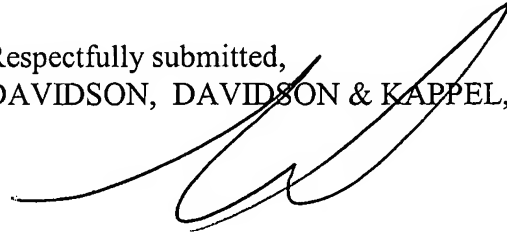
Claims 58, 70, and 96 have been cancelled in view of the amendments to their parent claims.

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As such, applicants have cancelled all of the rejected claims, and rewritten the objected to claims in independent form as suggested by the Examiner. Applicants therefore submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
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